COMMERCIAL COMPUTER-ASSISTED LEGAL RESEARCH SERVICES

(3.15, Guide to Judiciary Policy and Procedures)

The court may authorize counsel to obtain computer-assisted legal research services where the research is performed by employees of a commercial legal research firm or organization rather than by appointed counsel provided that the total amount charged for computer-assisted legal research services does not exceed the total amount of attorney compensation that would reasonably be approved if the appointed counsel had performed the research manually. Requests by counsel for authority to obtain such computer-assisted legal research services should include the following:

- 1) a brief explanation of the need for the research services; and
- 2) an estimate of the number of hours of attorney time that would be required to do the research manually.

Claims for compensation for such services should be submitted on the CJA 21.